

# First records of Narina's Trogon *Apaloderma narina* for Senegal

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**Premières données du Trogon narina *Apaloderma narina* pour le Sénégal.** En avril 2010, jusqu'à deux ou trois Trogons narina *Apaloderma narina* ont été observés à quatre reprises dans des forêts galeries près de Dindéfelo (12°38'N 12°32'W), dans l'extrême sud-est du Sénégal, à quelques kilomètres de la frontière avec la Guinée-Conakry. Un mâle a pu être photographié. Il s'agit des premières données de cette espèce pour le pays.

In the late afternoon of 13 April 2010, while conducting field work in semi-deciduous forest in a ravine near Dindéfelo (12°38'N 12°32'W) in extreme south-east Senegal, NA & LP watched a Narina's Trogon *Apaloderma narina* for several minutes before it became too dark to observe the bird further. Its bright green head, throat and upper breast, and vivid red lower breast and belly identified it as an adult male. Next day, the bird was seen again in the same tree, but flew away on our approach and could not be relocated. It was not seen the following day, but on 20 April LP & IZ observed two trogons perched in gallery forest within another gorge near Dindéfelo, c.1 km from the original sighting. Photographs of the male

were obtained confirming the identification (Fig. 1). On 24 April, LP & IZ again photographed a male at the same site. No further searches were conducted in 2010, but LP again observed a trogon on 23 March 2011, less than 1 km from the first sighting.

In West Africa, Narina's Trogon is a widespread but generally uncommon to scarce resident, occurring in primary and old secondary forests, and in gallery forest in savanna (Collar 2001, Borrow & Demey 2004). It reaches the western limits of its range in Guinea-Conakry and south-east Mali, but was not previously known from Senegal or The Gambia (Borrow & Demey 2004).

Dindéfelo is located in the Région de Kédougou, just a few kilometres from the border with Guinea-Conakry, within a newly proposed 13,000-ha communal protected area, where the Instituto Jane Goodall España is implementing a project to conserve Chimpanzees *Pan troglodytes* and to develop community-based tourism. The village is situated at the base of a low cliff that forms the first step of the Fouta-Djalou Massif, which extends through Guinea-Conakry. Altitude ranges from c.200 m in the village to slightly above 400 m on the cliffs. Several ravines dissect the cliff, some of them cloaked in well-developed gallery forests in the valley bottoms and semi-deciduous forests on their slopes. Predominant tree species in the gallery forests are *Carapa procera*, *Ceiba pentandra*, *Pseudospondias microcarpa*, *Cola cordifolia* and *Borassus aethiopicum*, and the liana *Saba senegalensis*. Characteristic species of the semi-deciduous forests include *Bombax costatum*, *Vitellaria paradoxa*, *Cassi siberiana*, *Combretum glutinosum*, *Ficus* sp., *Nauclea lautifolia*, *Parkia biglobosa*, *Piliostigma thonningii*, *Azelia africana* and *Pterocarpus erinaceus*.



**Figure 1.** Male Narina's Trogon *Apaloderma narina*, Dindéfelo, Senegal, 20 April 2010 (Liliana Pacheco)  
Trogon narina *Apaloderma narina* mâle, Dindéfelo, Sénégal, 20 avril 2010 (Liliana Pacheco)

Given that Narina's Trogon is generally sedentary in West Africa, with, for instance, a pair remaining virtually constantly within a small territory of c.1–2 ha (Collar 2001), our observations suggest that there is a previously unrecorded population in the Dindéfelo area.

### Acknowledgements

The activities of the Instituto Jane Goodall España in the study area are funded by Wula Nafaa-USAID Senegal and the Fundación Biodiversidad (Spain). Dr Imad Cherkaoui (SEO / BirdLife Morocco Programme) kindly revised the manuscript.

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Received 31 May 2010; revision accepted 30 March 2011.

## First record of Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis* for The Gambia

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**Première mention du Goéland à bec cerclé *Larus delawarensis* pour la Gambie.** Un Goéland à bec cerclé *Larus delawarensis* a été photographié à Tanji (13°22'N 16°39'W), en Gambie, le 3 décembre 2008. Ceci constitue la deuxième observation documentée pour l'Afrique sub-saharienne, la première ayant été faite dans le Delta du Saloum, Sénégal, en octobre 1985.

In the mid morning of 3 December 2008, during favourable weather conditions, CRB was searching for colour-ringed gulls and terns at the southern end of Tanji Bird Reserve (13°22'N 16°39'W), in Western Division, The Gambia. An unfamiliar medium-sized gull was noticed on the tideline beside a group of mixed aged Grey-headed Gulls *Larus cirrocephalus*. The bird strutted in and out of the shallows, avoiding the large numbers of Lesser Black-backed Gulls *L. fuscus* and a few Kelp Gulls *L. dominicanus* that were also present. A series of digiscoped images was taken and the gull eventually took flight, permitting a distant photograph showing the open wings and tail. His initial thoughts were of a first-winter Common Gull *L. canus*, a Palearctic vagrant to The Gambia with fewer than five modern records (Barlow *et al.* 1997). However, subsequent inspection of the photographs on the computer made him doubt this identification and the photographs were sent

to ASD, who immediately identified the bird as a first-winter Ring-billed Gull *L. delawarensis*, a species that he is very familiar with in the UK. ASD also circulated the images to other gull experts in the UK for comment.

First impressions from the photographs were of a small- to medium-sized gull in first-winter plumage, larger and bulkier than the nearby Grey-headed Gulls. Head and underparts were whitish with extensive smudging and spotting, especially on the lower nape, crown and flanks. The bill pattern was reminiscent of first-winter Glaucous Gull *L. hyperboreus*, the base being pale pink with the other two-thirds being black, apart from a very small amount of pink on the tip; the bill also appeared fairly heavy and robust. The eyes were blackish, and the legs a very similar pink colour to the bill, or slightly paler. Mantle and scapulars were grey (paler than the nearby Grey-headed Gulls in the photograph),